

Application No. 10/055836
Page 7

Amendment
Attorney Docket No. S63.2B-10059-US01

Remarks

This Amendment is in response to the Restriction Requirement dated April 16, 2004. In response Applicant provisionally elects Group II, drawn to a catheter assembly and corresponding to claims 23-28. Applicant has also provisionally elects species 2, corresponding to FIG. 2.

Applicant traverses the restriction requirement on the grounds that the identification of the Species is in error. Applicant notes that FIGs. 2 and 3 are directed to the same catheter assembly. FIG. 3 is utilized to more clearly illustrate that the inner surface of the loading tool may include a polymer material (see page 6, lines 9-17). One of ordinary skill in the art will readily understand that the use of such polymer material may be incorporated into any of the embodiments shown in FIGs. 1-6.

In light of the above applicants assert that claims 23, 25-27 and new claims 29-43 read on the provisionally elected species.

Application No. 10/055836
Page 8

Amendment
Attorney Docket No. S63.2B-10059-US01

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing it is believed that the present application, with claims 23, 25-27 and 29-43 is in condition for allowance. Early action to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS

Date: April 30, 2004

By

James M. Urzedowski
Registration No.: 48596

6109 Blue Circle Drive, Suite 2000
Minnetonka, MN 55343-9185
Telephone: (952) 563-3000
Facsimile: (952) 563-3001

f:\wpwork\jmu\10059us01_amd_20040430.doc